

October 20, 2011


MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Site Visit for Reported Unauthorized Activity; LRL-2011-922-sam

1. On February 24, 2011, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Indianapolis Regulatory Office received an e-mail from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) about possible unauthorized activity along Blue Lake in Whitely County, Indiana. IDEM personnel indicated they visited the site and it appeared that a recreational camp ground had constructed permanent areas in wetlands without proper authorization.
2. A review of the files indicated that the Corps had no prior knowledge or had previously authorized the work.
3. I, a representative of the Corps of Engineers, met with Marty Maupin, an IDEM representative, onsite on September 13, 2011, at the main office of the campground. While signs indicated the public were welcome, the office was closed. Mr. Maupin and I proceeded to the locations where he had previously observed wetland fill. Upon reaching the two areas, wetland data points were collected to verify fill.
4. Data Points 1 and 3 were collected in the two fill areas, while Data Points 2 and 4 were collected immediately adjacent to the fill area in undisturbed area to record representative data points of the area prior to fill. Data Points 1, 2, and 4 delineated as wetlands, even with the fill present in Data Point 1. Data Point 3 was taken in a fill area and lacked hydrology, however immediately north at Data Point 4, there was hydrology. Without the fill, the area would have delineated as wetland. The wetlands were part of a larger complex all abutting Blue Lake, an RPW and jurisdictional under the Clean Water Act.
5. Upon returning to the office, aerial photography was reviewed to determine when the fill may have been placed. Based on a review of several photographs, a majority of the fill has occurred since 2008. Through the collection of GPS points in the field and used of GIS software in the office, it was determined approximately 0.71 acres of scrub/shrub and 0.49 acre of forested wetlands were fill.

6. Site Photos are enclosed.

Scott Matthews  
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Indianapolis Regulatory Office

matthews/memo for record.doc 



2005 Aerial Photo









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Imagery Date: 5/31/2011

41°14'36.85" N 85°21'18.51" W elev 852 ft

Eye alt 1797 ft



































